



(Ireland.)

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To prevent Episcopal Unions in *Ireland*, and
restrain the granting of Dispensations.

WH **H** **E** **R** **E** **S** it is expedient to take away from the Arch-
bishops and Bishops of *Ireland*, the power to unite *pro*
hac vice, two or more Benefices in that Kingdom; and to restrain
the granting Dispensations to hold together Benefices above a certain
Value; **B**E **i**t **t** **h** **e** **r** **e** **f** **o** **r** **e** **n** **a** **c** **t** **e** **d** by the KING's most Excellent
5 **M** **A** **J** **E** **S** **T**Y, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual
and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled,
and by the authority of the same, **T**H **A**T from and after
it shall not be lawful for
10 any Archbishop or Bishop to unite *pro hac vice*, any two or more
Benefices in *Ireland*.

Preamble.

Benefices not
to be united.

And be it further Enacted, That it shall not be lawful from and
after for
any Spiritual Person holding any Benefice with cure of souls, of the
15 annual Value of per annum or
upwards, to accept and take, with or without dispensation, any other
Benefice whatever; and that if any Spiritual Person holding any
Benefice of the annual Value of per
annum, shall, after the passing of this Act, become in any manner
20 entitled to, or in the enjoyment of another Benefice, whether by
institution and induction, collation, donation or licence, the Benefice
by him first held shall become *ipso facto* void, as if the same had
become vacant by the natural death of such Spiritual Person.

Spiritual Per-
son holding
Benefice of
a certain
Value, not to
accept any
other Ben-
efice

Return of
Benefices
above a cer-
tain annual
Value, to be
made to His
Majesty in
Council.

And be it further Enacted, That every Archbishop and Bishop, shall, within after the passing of this Act, make a Return to His Majesty in Council of all the Benefices within their respective Dioceses, above the annual Value of per annum; and that such annual Value shall be ascertained and returned in the same manner as is directed by an Act, intituled, " An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws " for enforcing the Residence of Spiritual Persons on their Benefices, " to restrain Spiritual Persons from carrying on Trade or Merchandise, and for the support and maintenance of Stipendiary Curates " in *Ireland*;" passed in the fifth year of the reign of His present Majesty; and the Value of the Benefices so returned shall be and be taken to be the Value thereof, for all purposes of this Act. 5 10

What are to
be termed
Benefices.

And be it further Enacted, That in all cases wherein the term Benefice is used in this Act, the said term shall be understood and taken to mean Benefices with cure, and no others, and to comprehend therein, for the purposes of this Act, all donatives, perpetual and impropriate Curacies, and parochial Chapelries. 15

Act not to
extend to
Lord Lieu-
tenant's
power, as now
by Law
existing.

And be it farther Enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to take away, alter or diminish the power by law at present existing, of the Lord Lieutenant in Council to unite any two or more Benefices